GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2092
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2000
DUMPING OF KENYAN TEA
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Indian Tea is facing serious crisis in the market in fetching the basic required price due to the dumping of kenyan tea in the market; (

(b) whether the Indian tea plantation programme has been expanded to take care of its domestic requirements and to make available surplus export with a long term plan; and (

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a): No Sir. Import of tea from Kenya is insignificant and cannot have any effect on the domestic tea prices. The quantity of tea imported from Kenya during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 was 0.10 mn. kg., 0.44 mn. kg and 1.69 mn. kg respectively.

(b) & (c) : Yes Sir. While preparing the 9th Plan proposals, the domestic demand for tea as also the export demand for the plan period was assessed and accordingly the production target of 1000 mn kgs for the terminal year of 9th Plan period has been fixed. Further, with a view to meet the domestic demand and also make available surplus for exports, several steps have been taken by the Government / Tea Board for increasing production of tea. The steps include financial assistance by Tea Board to the tea industry through its various developmental schemes for encouraging extension planting, replanting, rejuvenation, pruning, infilling, creation of irrigation facilities and drainage etc.